

And it was agreed to.

The question was then taken on the second and remaining branch of the amendment,

And it was agreed to.

Mr. TUCK. I have the honor in behalf of the committee on Revision, to present to the Convention the Constitution of Maryland in its engrossed form, and to lay it upon the President's desk for his signature, according to the direction of the Convention. We have carefully revised all the articles with the engrossed copy, and find it to be correct in all respects.

The Constitution was laid before the President for his signature.

Mr. HOWARD. We have nothing more to do than to make a provision that the engrossed copy shall be deposited in the proper place.

Mr. SPENCER. An order has already been passed upon that subject.

Mr. HOWARD. When the orders are read, the gentleman will see that it is not applicable to the present state of things.

The orders were read as follows:

*Ordered*, That Mr. TUCK and Mr. GRASON be instructed to deposit the engrossed Constitution after its signature by the President and Secretary, in the office of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals for the Western Shore.

*Ordered*, That this Convention adjourn *sine die*.

Mr. SPENCER. I will merely suggest that we have already passed an order that a committee of three shall cause the engrossed copy to be published and bound, and that the engrossed Constitution and a bound copy shall be deposited in the office of the Court of Appeals.

Mr. HOWARD. This order can do no harm. It proposes that the original copy shall be placed among the archives, and the resolutions of the gentleman refers to printed copies.

Mr. CHAMBERS thought this an odd proceeding. The Convention, within the last few minutes, passed a part of the Constitution, and before he had time to get back to the committee by whose direction he had procured its passage, he found the committee here. He had as soon expected to see the stars fall. The paper is yet on the clerk's desk, where it lies in sight of us all, and yet the committee enter the hall and say they have an engrossed and perfect copy of the Constitution.

Mr. CONSTABLE. The committee tell us so.

Mr. CHAMBERS desired to know whether the clerk was to make what he thought a copy of the Constitution, but which this Convention had never seen or read, or heard read. It did not sound right, that upon the mere *ipse dixit* of the clerk, the President was to subscribe and the Secretary to attest such an instrument, and send it out as the work of this body. He did not desire to interpose any unnecessary obstacle to rapid progress, but in so very serious a matter as the formation of a government for the people of the State for all time to come it did seem to be a most strange, careless and undignified mode of proceeding. He did not think a case quite parallel could be found in the book which professes

to give a history of all the Constitutions in the Union. As to any matter of mere form, he was willing to dispense with it, so far as he was not made responsible, and he did not mean to be made responsible for these doings. Whether in other respects it was or was not the Constitution which the committee now presented, he could not tell, nor did he suppose any one else could. Certainly there lay a part of it on a scrap of paper on the Clerk's desk.

Mr. TUCK said:

That the gentleman from Kent, and all the members of the Convention knew very well that that paper was not in the form in which it was to be signed by the President. He had stated this evening, under the direction of the committee, that as there was an anxiety felt on the part of the members to adjourn this night, and not to meet in the morning, every other part of the Constitution would be engrossed during the recess we had taken, if the Convention would agree to accept, as an engrossment for the present, of the Legislative and Judicial departments, the printed bills which had been acted upon by the Convention, in relation to those departments. He understood that suggestion to be acquiesced in, and it was so understood by the committee. In accordance with that suggestion, (and he thought it was understood so by the gentleman from Kent,) he came in here with the committee to make the report in that form, the understanding being that the final engrossment as to the legislative and judicial departments was to be done during the night, and in the morning, under the direction of the committee, in which the mode proposed by the committee did not differ in principle from the order of the honorable gentleman from Baltimore county, (Mr. Howard.)

He was free to say that when he came out of the Senate chamber, (where the committee had been in session,) he did not know that the Convention had passed the article to which his attention had been called. The Convention had refused to hear him on the thirty-sixth article of the Bill of Rights in relation to tests, and he supposed they had refused to consider any amendment, or any suggestion of an amendment to any portion of the Constitution. The committee did not know that that amendment had been passed. They knew that the honorable gentleman from Kent, under the direction of the committee had come in here to supply what they considered a *casus omissus* in references to the contested elections of judges, but they did not learn from the gentleman that that section had been adopted by the House.

Mr. CHAMBERS. I have not left the Convention.

Mr. TUCK said:

That when the committee came into the hall, they did not know that the gentleman had succeeded in obtaining the adoption of his amendment, and he did not know it until the gentleman came to him and told him that the instrument he had laid upon the President's desk did not contain the article just passed. This statement was due to the committee, and also to the Convention